IN THE CLAIMS

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The status of each claim is set forth in parentheses. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1-31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Currently Amended) A method of discovering that a particular network node has been connected to a computer network, wherein the network includes (a) plural nodes, one of which is the particular node, and (b) a server arrangement including a network portion and a discovery portion, the method comprising:

responding to an establishment of a connection of the particular network node to the network, the network portion of the server arrangement receiving an access request from the particular network node, wherein the particular network node has an assigned address assigned by a device in the network;

in response to receiving the access request, the network portion authenticating the particular network node;

the network portion sending a discovery request and the assigned address of the particular network node to the discovery portion of the server arrangement after the network portion has successfully authenticated the particular network node;

the discovery portion storing the assigned address of the particular network node and initiating a discovery program that performs a discovery procedure for that particular network node;

the discovery procedure for the particular network node, initiated by the discovery request from the network portion, including polling other nodes in the network to determine a network ~~topography~~ topology, the polled network ~~topography~~ topology including at least some of the other nodes to which the particular network node is connected, and to determine the configuration of the particular network node.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the discovery portion receives a sequence of discovery requests including assigned addresses of various nodes of the network which have requested access to the network, the discovery portion storing the assigned addresses of the received requests from the various nodes.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the discovery portion stores the assigned addresses as a stack that the discovery portion processes in a first-in-first-out order.

35.   (Currently Amended) A method of discovering that a particular network node has been connected to a computer network, wherein the network includes (a) plural nodes, one of which is the particular node, and (b) a server arrangement including a network portion and a discovery portion, the method comprising:

responding to an establishment of a connection of the particular network node to the network, the network portion of the server arrangement receiving an access request from the particular network node, wherein the particular network node has an assigned address assigned by a device in the network;

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in response to receiving the access request, the network portion authenticating the particular network node;

the network portion sending a discovery request and the assigned address of the particular network node to the discovery portion of the server arrangement after the network portion has successfully authenticated the particular network node;

the discovery portion storing the assigned address of the particular network node and initiating a discovery program that performs a discovery procedure for the particular network node;

the discovery procedure for the particular <u>network</u> node<u>, initiated by the discovery request from the network portion,</u> including ~~determining status information about the particular network node and the discovery procedure further including~~ polling other nodes in the network to determine a network ~~topography~~ <u>topology</u>, the polled network ~~topography~~ <u>topology</u> including at least some of the other nodes to which the particular network node is connected, and <u>to determine</u> the configuration of the particular network node.

36.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 wherein the discovery portion receives a sequence of discovery requests including assigned addresses of various nodes of the network which have requested access to the network, the discovery portion storing the assigned addresses of the received requests from the various nodes.

37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the discovery portion stores the assigned addresses as a stack that the discovery portion processes in a first-in-first-out order.

38.　(Previously Presented)　A non-transitory storage medium or device storing machine-readable information for causing a processor to execute the steps of claim 32 on the network of claim 32.

39.　(Previously Presented)　A non-transitory storage medium or device storing machine-readable information for causing a processor to execute the steps of claim 35 on the server arrangement of claim 35.

40.　(Currently Amended)　A server arrangement including machine-readable information executed by a processor, the server arrangement for discovering that a particular network node has been connected to a computer network, wherein the particular network node has an assigned address assigned by a device in the network, the server arrangement including:

　　a network portion and a discovery portion;

　　the network portion being arranged to, responding to an establishment of a connection of the particular network node to the network, receive an access request from the particular network node;

　　the network portion being arranged to authenticate the particular network node in response to receiving the access request;

　　the network portion being arranged to send a discovery request and the assigned address of the particular network node to the discovery portion after the network portion has successfully authenticated the particular network node;

the discovery portion being arranged to store the assigned address of the particular

network node and initiating a discovery program that performs a discovery procedure for the

particular network node; and

the discovery procedure for the particular network node, initiated by the discovery

request from the network portion, including polling other nodes in the network to determine a

network ~~topography~~ topology, the polled network ~~topography~~ topology including at least

some of the other nodes to which the particular network node is connected, and to determine

the configuration of the particular network node.

41.   (Previously Presented) The server arrangement of claim 40 wherein the discovery

portion is arranged to receive a sequence of discovery requests including assigned addresses

of various nodes of the network which have requested access to the network and includes a

storage for storing the assigned addresses on the received requests from the various nodes.

42.   (Previously Presented) The server arrangement of claim 41 wherein the storage is

arranged to store the assigned addresses as a stack, the discovery portion being arranged to

process the stack in a first-in-first-out order.

43.   (Currently Amended) A server arrangement including machine-readable information

executed by a processor, the server arrangement for discovering that a particular network

node has been connected to a computer network, wherein the particular network node has an

address assigned by a device in the network, the server arrangement including:

a network portion and a discovery portion;

the network portion being arranged to, responding to an establishment of a connection of the particular network node to the network, receive an access request from the particular network node;

the network portion being arranged to authenticate the particular network node in response to receiving the access request;

the network portion being arranged to send a discovery request and the assigned address of the particular network node to the discovery portion after the network portion has successfully authenticated the particular network node;

the discovery portion being arranged to store the assigned address of the particular network node and initiating a discovery program that performs a discovery procedure for the particular network node;

the discovery procedure for the particular network node, initiated by the discovery request from the network portion, including ~~determining status information about the particular network node and the discovery procedure further including~~ polling other nodes in the network to determine a network ~~topography~~ topology, the polled network ~~topography~~ topology including at least some of the other nodes to which the particular network node is connected, and to determine the configuration of the particular network node.

44.   (Previously Presented) The server arrangement of claim 43 wherein the discovery portion is arranged to receive a sequence of discovery requests including assigned addresses of various nodes of the network which have requested access to the network and includes a storage for storing the assigned addresses on the received requests from the various nodes.

45.   (Previously Presented) The server arrangement of claim 44 wherein the storage is arranged to store the assigned addresses as a stack, the discovery portion being arranged to process the stack in a first-in-first-out order.

46.   (Currently Amended) A computer network for discovering that a particular network node has been connected to the computer network, the network comprising:

a server arrangement including machine-readable information executed by a processor; and

plural nodes, one of which is the particular network node, wherein the particular network node is assigned an addressed by the network;

the server arrangement including:

a network portion and a discovery portion, the network portion being arranged to, responding to an establishment of a connection of the particular network node to the network, receive an access request from the particular network node,

the network portion being arranged to authenticate the particular network node in response to receiving the access request,

the network portion being arranged to send a discovery request and the assigned address of the particular network node to the discovery portion after the network portion has successfully authenticated the particular network node,

the discovery portion being arranged to store the assigned address of the particular network node and initiating a discovery program that performs a discovery procedure for the particular network node, and

the discovery procedure for the particular network node, initiated by the discovery request from the network portion, including ~~determining status information about the particular network node and the discovery procedure further including~~ polling other nodes in the network to determine a network ~~topography~~ topology, the polled network ~~topography~~ topology including at least some of the other nodes to which the particular network node is connected, and to determine the configuration of the particular network node.

47.   (Previously Presented) The computer network of claim 46 wherein the discovery portion is arranged to receive a sequence of discovery requests including assigned addresses of various nodes of the network which have requested access to the network and includes a storage for storing the assigned addresses on the received requests from the various nodes.

48.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the particular network node includes a portable computer and a docking station, the docking station responding to the portable computer being initially connected to the docking station by booting the portable computer and performing a logon dialog between the network portion of the server arrangement and the portable computer;

        the logon dialog being the access request;

        the network portion of the server arrangement responding to the logon dialog from the portable computer by authenticating the portable computer; and

        the server arrangement, when connected to the authenticated portable computer, functioning as a domain controller for the portable computer.

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49.   (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the particular network node includes a portable computer and a docking station, the docking station responding to the portable computer being initially connected to the docking station by booting the portable computer and performing a logon dialog between the network portion of the server arrangement and the portable computer;

the logon dialog being the access request;

the network portion of the server arrangement responding to the logon dialog from the portable computer by authenticating the portable computer; and

the server arrangement, when connected to the authenticated portable computer, functioning as a domain controller for the portable computer.

50.   (New) The server arrangement of claim 40, wherein the particular network node includes a portable computer and a docking station, the docking station responding to the portable computer being initially connected to the docking station by booting the portable computer and performing a logon dialog between the network portion of the server arrangement and the portable computer;

the logon dialog being the access request;

the network portion of the server arrangement responding to the logon dialog from the portable computer by authenticating the portable computer; and

the server arrangement, when connected to the authenticated portable computer, functioning as a domain controller for the portable computer.

51.   (New) The server arrangement of claim 43 wherein the particular network node includes a portable computer and a docking station, the docking station responding to the portable computer being initially connected to the docking station by booting the portable computer and performing a logon dialog between the network portion of the server arrangement and the portable computer;

the logon dialog being the access request;

the network portion of the server arrangement responding to the logon dialog from the portable computer by authenticating the portable computer; and

the server arrangement, when connected to the authenticated portable computer, functioning as a domain controller for the portable computer.

52.   (New) The computer network of claim 46, wherein the particular network node includes a portable computer and a docking station, the docking station responding to the portable computer being initially connected to the docking station by booting the portable computer and performing a logon dialog between the network portion of the server arrangement and the portable computer;

the logon dialog being the access request;

the network portion of the server arrangement responding to the logon dialog from the portable computer by authenticating the portable computer; and

the server arrangement, when connected to the authenticated portable computer, functioning as a domain controller for the portable computer.